AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A method for ~~preventing or~~ reducing adhesion formation between tissue surfaces in a vertebrate subject, comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of at least one protease inhibitor to a site on a tissue surface for a period of time sufficient to ~~prevent or~~ reduce adhesion formation.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said protease inhibitor is an inhibitor of a serine protease.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein said inhibitor of a serine protease is an inhibitor of a chymotrypsin-like serine protease.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 3, wherein said inhibitor of a chymotrypsin-like serine protease is an inhibitor of a chymase.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein said inhibitor of a chymase is a peptidyl derivative of aryl diesters of α-aminoalkylphosphonic acids.

6. (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein said inhibitor of a chymase is Suc-Val-Pro-$Phe^{P}(OPh)_2$.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein said inhibitor of a chymase is an enantiomerically enriched preparation of Suc-Val-Pro-Phe^{P}(OPh)$_2$.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 7, wherein Suc-Val-Pro-Phe^{P}(OPh)$_2$-A comprises greater than 50% by weight of the total Suc-Val-Pro-Phe^{P}(OPh)$_2$ in said enantiomerically enriched preparation.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 7, wherein Suc-Val-Pro-Phe^{P}(OPh)$_2$-A comprises greater than 80% by weight of the total Suc-Val-Pro-Phe^{P}(OPh)$_2$ in said enantiomerically enriched preparation.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 7, wherein Suc-Val-Pro-Phe^{P}(OPh)$_2$-A comprises greater than 95% by weight of the total Suc-Val-Pro-Phe^{P}(OPh)$_2$ in said enantiomerically enriched preparation.

11. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said protease inhibitor is administered to said subject before, during or after a surgical procedure.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11, wherein said surgical procedure is an abdominal surgical procedure.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 11, wherein said surgical procedure is a thoracic

surgical procedure.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 11, wherein said surgical procedure is an ophthalmic surgical procedure.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 11, wherein said surgical procedure is a cardiac or gynecologic surgical procedure.

16. (Currently amended) A method for ~~preventing or~~ reducing postoperative adhesion formation in the peritoneum of a warm-blooded mammal, comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of at least one serine protease inhibitor to a site on an organ surface for a period of time sufficient to ~~prevent or~~ reduce adhesion formation.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 16, wherein said serine protease inhibitor is an inhibitor of a chymotrypsin-like serine protease.

18. (Original) A method according to claim 17, wherein said inhibitor of a chymotrypsin-like serine protease is an inhibitor of a chymase.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein said inhibitor of a chymase is a peptidyl derivative of aryl diesters of α-aminoalkylphosphonic acids.

20. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein said inhibitor of a chymase is Suc-Val-

Pro-Phep^{P}(OPh)$_2$.

21. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein said inhibitor of a chymase is an enantiomerically enriched preparation of Suc-Val-Pro-Phe^{P}(OPh)$_2$.

22. (Original) A method according to claim 21, wherein Suc-Val-Pro-Phe^{P}(OPh)$_2$-A comprises greater than 50% by weight of the total Suc-Val-Pro-Phe^{P}(OPh)$_2$ in said enantiomerically enriched preparation.

23. (Original) A method according to claim 21, wherein Suc-Val-Pro-Phe^{P}(OPh)$_2$-A comprises greater than 80% by weight of the total Suc-Val-Pro-Phe^{P}(OPh)$_2$ in said enantiomerically enriched preparation.

24. (Original) A method according to claim 21, wherein Suc-Val-Pro-Phe^{P}(OPh)$_2$-A comprises greater than 95% by weight of the total Suc-Val-Pro-Phe^{P}(OPh)$_2$ in said enantiomerically enriched preparation.

25. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~claims~~ claim 1, wherein said protease inhibitor is administered in conjunction with a delivery vehicle which maintains an effective local concentration of said protease inhibitor at said site, and wherein said delivery vehicle comprises microcapsules or microspheres.

26. (Original) A method according to claim 25, wherein said microcapsules or microspheres

comprise a biodegradable polymer selected from the group consisting of poly(α-hydroxy acids), polyhydroxybutyric acids, polycaprolactones, polyorthoesters, polyanhydrides, PACA, polycyanoacrylates, poly(D,L-lactide-co-glycolide) and mixtures thereof.

27. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~claims~~ claim 1, wherein said protease inhibitor is administered in conjunction with a delivery vehicle which maintains an effective local concentration of said protease inhibitor at said site, and wherein said delivery vehicle comprises a film.

28. (Original) A method according to claim 27, wherein said film comprise a biodegradable polymer selected from the group consisting of poly(α-hydroxy acids), polyhydroxybutyric acids, polycaprolactones, polyorthoesters, polyanhydrides, PACA, polycyanoacrylates, poly(D,L-lactide-co-glycolide) and mixtures thereof.

29. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~claims~~ claim 1, wherein said protease inhibitor is administered in conjunction with a delivery vehicle which maintains an effective local concentration of said protease inhibitor at said site, and wherein said delivery vehicle comprises liposomes.

30. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~claims~~ claim 1, wherein said protease inhibitor is administered in conjunction with a delivery vehicle which maintains an effective local concentration of said protease inhibitor at said site, and wherein said delivery vehicle comprises a high-molecular weight carrier selected from the group consisting of hyaluronic acid, hydrogels,

~~carboxymethlcellulose~~ carboxymethylcellulose, dextrans, cyclodextrans, and mixtures thereof.

31. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said vertebrate subject is a human.

32. (Original) A method according to claim 16, wherein said warm-blood mammal is a human.

33. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition for the prevention of adhesion formation, comprising ~~the~~ at least one protease inhibitor ~~of any one of claims 1-24~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient.

34. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 33, further comprising a delivery vehicle which maintains an effective local concentration of said protease inhibitor at a site on an tissue surface for a period of time sufficient to ~~prevent or~~ reduce adhesion formation.

35. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 33, further comprising a microcapsule or microsphere with a biodegradable polymer.

36. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 33, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is in the form of a film and wherein said pharmaceutical composition further comprises a biodegradable polymer, a liposome, or both.